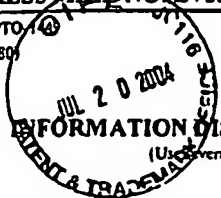


EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV335394641US

Sheet 1 of 4

FORM PTO 140 (REV. 7-80)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 850136.402D1		APPLICATION NO. 10/617,317	
 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Motohide Yamazaki et al.		FILING DATE July 10, 2003	
				GROUP ART UNIT 1632			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	3915800	10/28/75	Kang et al.	195	31 P	
	AB	3960832	06/01/76	Kang et al.	536	123	
	AC	4326053	04/20/82	Kang et al.	536	123	
	AD	4342866	08/03/83	Kang et al.	536	119	
	AE	4401760	08/30/83	Peik et al.	435	101	
	AF	4963668	10/16/90	Allen et al.	536	114	
	AG	5300429	04/05/94	Baird et al.	435	101	
	AH	5338681	08/16/94	Deckwer et al.	435	252.1	
	AI	5602241	02/11/97	Maruyama et al.	536	127	
	AJ	5854034	12/29/98	Pollock et al.	435	101	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AK	EP 266163 A2	05/04/88	EPO			
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AP	ATCC Catalogue of Bacteria and Bacteriophages, 19th edition, 1996, pp. 26, 68 and 295.					
	AQ	Lobas et al., "Structure and Physical Properties of the Extracellular Polysaccharide PS-P4 Produced by Sphingomonas paucimobilis P4 (DSM 6418)," <i>Carbohydrate Research</i> , 251 (1994) 303-313.					
	AR	Banik R. M. et al: "Exopolysaccharide of Gellan Family: Prospects and Potential." <i>World Journal Of Microbiology & Biotechnology</i> , vol. 16, No. 5, Jul. 2000 (2000-07), pp. 407-414, ISSN: 0959-3993.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).							

WR
5-28

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /S.M./